

PASSIVE NEEDLE GUARD FOR SYRINGES

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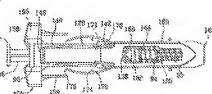
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A passive needle guard includes a body having proximal and distal ends and a cavity therein for receiving a medicine cartridge, and a shield slidable on the body between retracted and extended positions for exposing and covering, respectively, a needle extending from the body, the shield being biased towards the extended position. Deflectable latch members extend from the shield that include catches for engaging catches on the body for holding the shield in the retracted position. A syringe is inserted into the needle guard, and a plunger of the syringe is depressed to inject medication and to deflect the latch members to disengage the catches and release the shield, whereupon the shield automatically advances to the extended position. In the extended position, cooperating detents on the shield and body engage one another, thereby preventing subsequent retraction of the shield. A passive needle guard (110) includes a body (120) having proximal and distal ends (122,124) and a cavity (126) therein for receiving a medicine cartridge, and a shield (160) slidable on the body between retracted and extended positions for exposing and covering, respectively, a needle (95) extending from the body, the shield (160) being biased towards the extended position. Deflectable latch members (174) extend from the shield (160) that include catches (176) for engaging catches (148) on the body (120) for holding the shield (160) in the retracted position. A syringe (90) is inserted into the needle guard (110), and a plunger (98) of the syringe (90) is depressed to inject medication and to deflect the latch members (174) to disengage the catches (148) and release the shield (160), whereupon the shield automatically advances to the extended position. In the extended position, cooperating detents (171) on the shield (160) and body (120) engage one another, thereby preventing subsequent retraction of the shield (160).



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